Alan LeBovidge, Commissioner Gerard D. Perry, Acting Deputy Commissioner



Informational Guideline Release

Municipal Data Management and Technical Assistance Bureau Informational Guideline Release (IGR) No. 2003-302

August 2003

FISCAL YEAR 2004

PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR CHERRY SHEET PROGRAMS

This Informational Guideline Release provides municipal and regional school officials with information on the FY04 payment schedule for Cherry Sheet programs.

If you need any additional information, please call Lisa Juszkiewicz at (617) 626-2386 or Jared Curtis at (617) 626-2320 of the Municipal Data Management and Technical Assistance Bureau.

Topical Index Key:

Cash Management Local Aid

Distribution:

Accountants/Auditors Municipal/Regional School Treasurers Regional School Business Managers

The Division of Local Services is responsible for oversight of and assistance to cities and towns in achieving equitable property taxation and efficient fiscal management. The Division regularly publishes IGRs (<u>Informational Guideline Releases</u> detailing legal and administrative procedures) and the <u>Bulletin</u> (announcements and useful information) for local officials and others interested in municipal finance.

Informational Guideline Release (IGR) No. 2003-302 August 2003

FISCAL YEAR 2004

PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR CHERRY SHEET PROGRAMS

This guideline provides municipal and regional school officials with information on the dates they can expect payments for Fiscal Year 2004 Cherry Sheet programs. In addition, this guideline explains how assessments will be deducted from local aid distributions. This information will be useful in cash flow analysis.

Municipal Data Management/ Technical Assistance Bureau

Frederick Kingsley, Chief

FY04 Cherry Sheet Programs Payment Schedule

Receipts

Program Timing of Payments

Chapter 70 Quarterly

Regional School Transportation Semiannually, December & June

School Construction Annually

Retired Teachers' Pensions Annually, September **Charter Tuition Assessment Reimbursement** December, March & June Racial Equality Quarterly, on request

School Lunch Monthly

School Choice Receiving Tuition December, March & June

Essex County Technical Institute Receiving Tuition Quarterly Lottery Quarterly

Additional Assistance Quarterly Local Share of Racing Taxes Quarterly

Regional Public Libraries Monthly or Quarterly Police Career Incentive Annually, January

Urban Renewal Projects Semiannually, December & June

Quarterly Veterans' Benefits

Exemptions: Veterans, Blind Persons & Surviving Spouses Annually, after filing

Elderly Exemptions Annually, December State-Owned Land Annually, November **Public Libraries**

Annually or Semiannually

Assessments

For cities and towns, cherry sheet assessments (Form C.S. 1-EC) will automatically be deducted from quarterly local aid distributions. One quarter (1/4) of the State Assessments and Charges, Transportation Authority programs (Lines B-1 through C-3) and Essex County Technical Institute Sending Tuition program (Line E-3) will be deducted from a community's quarterly local aid distribution. One third (1/3) of the Tuition Assessments (Lines E-1 and E-2) will be deducted from a community's December, March and June quarterly local aid distributions.

In addition, one item from Annual Charges Against Receipts will be deducted from a community's quarterly local aid distributions as follows:

1st quarter: Multi Year Repayment Program (Line D-1)

3rd quarter: STRAP Repayments (Line D-3) **4th quarter:** Special Education (Line D-2)

County assessments (Line A) are paid directly to the county by the city or town. However, communities in the former Hampden and Worcester counties will have their assessments deducted from their quarterly local aid distributions.

For regional school districts, cherry sheet charges (Form C.S. 2-ER, Lines 11A and 12A) will be deducted from quarterly local aid distributions as follows:

1st quarter: Multi Year Repayment Program (Line 11A)

4th quarter: Special Education (Line 12A)

For regional school districts, cherry sheet charges for School Choice and Charter School Tuition (Lines 13A and 14A) will be deducted from the December, March and June quarterly local aid distributions.